

For Immediate Release

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Statement from San José Mayor Chuck Reed Regarding Major Drop in Violent Gang-Related Crimes

San José, Calif. – San José has experienced a significant decrease in violent gang-related incidents since the beginning of the year.

San José Police Department data for January to September 2014 shows that violent gang-related incidents have dropped over 70 percent since January. The data, available online [here](#), will be presented to the Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force on Friday October 24, 2014 at 7:45 a.m. in Committee Room 118 in the San José City Hall wing. The meetings are open to the public.

According to the report:

- The monthly total for reported violent gang-related incidents of all types dropped from 28 in January to 8 in September.
- Gang-related homicides dropped from 1 in the month of January to 0 in September.
- Gang-related robberies dropped from 8 in January to 1 in September.
- Gang-related aggravated assaults dropped from 19 in January to 7 in September.
- Gang-related rape was at 0 in both months.

Mayor Chuck Reed has released the following statement:

"These excellent results are a testament to the hard work of the men and women of the San José Police Department under the leadership of Chief Larry Esquivel and the many community members and organizations who make up the Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force. The Department has responded to problems creatively and redeployed resources effectively while the Task Force members excel in collaborating with our department and are big contributors to reducing gang related crime. The U.S. Department of Justice has recognized San José's gang prevention program as one of the best in the country. The positive relationship our police department has with our community is what makes our success possible."

Overall, Serious Crime Has Declined Since January 2012

The success in reducing gang crime has contributed to the City's overall decrease in serious crimes since 2012. San José Police Department data for the first half of 2014 shows:

- Total serious crimes of all types dropped by 9.1% from January to June of 2014 (over the same period in 2013). That drop builds on a 10.3% decrease for calendar year 2013.

- Homicides dropped by 20.8% in the first six months of 2014. In 2013, homicides declined by 15.6% over 2012.
- Violent crimes in San José in 2013 were at the second-lowest level in a decade.

Links to crime statistics and other reports can be found online [here](#).

San José had the lowest rate of violent crimes of big cities (over 500,000 population) in America in 2011 and again in 2012 and the first half of 2013. For property crimes, the City had the sixth-lowest rate among the more than 30 cities with populations of 500,000 or more based on data for the first half of 2013, the most recent Uniform Crime Report data (available online [here](#) from the FBI).

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